

<TEXT> Dear FCC, I am writing in concern of Verizon Wireless' purchase of Unicel cellular service in Vermont. I discontinued my cellular phone service (after my contract expired) with Cingular when I learned of their lack of coverage in Vermont. I tried to live without a cell phone, but was unable to do so, and subsequently resigned up for the same carrier figuring I would not have a problem as I stayed in areas that had consistent coverage.

One year ago, I had to change to Unicel as Cingular forced me to "opt out" of my contract as I was not using their service towers enough. So the original reason I discontinued my service with them was the same reason they forced me to find another carrier, they did not have enough coverage in Vermont. I decided to "port" my phone number to Unicel as I could use my existing phone on their GSM network, thereby eliminating the huge cost of purchasing new equipment and service plan through another carrier like Verizon. Unicel was my best option since US Cellular has limited service options, and service coverage in Vermont,. I did not choose Verizon as I was disappointed in the service options offered by them, and as I would have had to purchase another phone. I am a happy Unicel customer, and I appreciated their availability to me at a time when I had to choose another provider to have phone service.

My cell phone is my only phone. I have internet access, so have considered the possibility of Internet based calling, but have no land-line phone service as it is cost prohibitive. If Verizon's deal to purchase Unicel proceeds, I am concerned I will be forced to purchase new equipment to use Verizon's network, and to enter into a service contract with the usual fee for early termination of the contract. Right now I do not have a service contract with Unicel. I like knowing that I can take my phone and business elsewhere if I do not like the customer service I receive, the service plans offered, or equipment options available, as I do not have to worry about an early termination fee if I choose to take my business to another company.

If Verizon proceeds with finalizing the purchase of Unicel, I hope they keep Unicel and Unicel's cellular network active. I hope the quality customer service, the existing and expanding GSM network, and contract-less options remain available to new and existing customers of Unicel. If Verizon eliminates these elements upon purchase of or even a year after acquiring Unicel, I will be highly disappointed and will find another cellular provider to get my cell phone service through.

I request that the sale of Unicel to Verizon Wireless be terminated, as I do not like having choices made for me as would be the case since only one carrier, Verizon, will have significant coverage and service outlets in the state. If I want to be Verizon's customer, I would have signed up for their service. I like choice, and I like economical choices, like the one I made to keep my GSM phone and go contract-less with Unicel. I do not believe Verizon will treat Unicel customers as well as Unicel does currently.

Vermont is rural, the few cellular providers in the state do a decent job of offering options to the residents. If two of those few providers consolidate, and further restrict the already few options there are, the expensive option of switching to only one viable service carrier if the need arises becomes unbearable and intolerable for those who are used to having options to select from.

As an individual with a direct stake in the outcome of this purchase, please consider my objections to this sale sincere.

Grace Person  
Waterbury, VT

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North Main Street<br> &lt;ADDRESS2&gt; Apartment #6<br> &lt;CITY&gt;  
Waterbury<br> &lt;STATE&gt; VT<br> &lt;ZIP&gt; 05676<br> &lt;LAW-  
FIRM&gt; <br> &lt;ATTORNEY&gt; <br> &lt;FILE-NUMBER&gt; <br>  
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&lt;DESCRIPTION&gt; Email Comment <br> &lt;CONTACT-EMAIL&gt;  
grace.person@yahoo.com<br> &lt;TEXT&gt; Dear FCC,</div> <div>I am writing in  
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